

**Minutes of the Concordia Council on Student Life Meeting Held Friday, 17 November 1995, at 10:00 a.m., in H-771.**

**Present:** Dr. D.L. Boisvert, Chair; Ms. J. Chegrinec, Secretary; Mr. B. Counihan; Mr. H. Zarins; Dr. S. M. Graub; Ms. A. Kerby; Ms. A. Siano; Mr. R. Côté; Ms. D. Cooper; Ms. C. Sbrocchi; Mr. A. Feldman; Ms. A. Coombs; Ms. E. Robinson; Mr. N. Bidoun; Ms. L. Kuilman; Mr. C. Macdonald; Ms. L. Lipscombe.

**Absent with regrets:** Dr. I.M. Barlow; Ms. L. Prendergast; Ms. K. Hedrich; Ms. A. Vroom.

**Absent:** Mr. D. Ellison; Mr. S. Zacharias; Dr. R. Bonin; 2 graduate students.

**Delegates:** Ms. C. Vouzan representing Student Accounts; Ms. L. Lecouvie representing Alumni Affairs.

**1. Approval of Agenda:**

On a motion by Mr. Zarins, seconded by Mr. Bidoun, the agenda was approved.

**2. Remarks from the Chair:**

Dr. Boisvert thanked Mr. Counihan for chairing the 20 October CCSL meeting. He reported that the two graduate students have yet to be appointed and that Dr. G. Alfred, the Faculty representative on Council has regrettably had to resign from this position. Suggestions for a Faculty replacement can be sent to Dr. Boisvert who will recommend them to Senate.

**3. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of 20 October:**

Mr. Feldman said that at the last meeting of Council, it was discussed that permanent observers who are unable to attend a meeting should send delegates to Council. On a motion by Mr. Counihan, seconded by Mr. Zarins this recommendation was approved, as were the minutes.

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

It was agreed that an update on student issues will be deferred until item #6.

**5. Report from the Planning & Resources Committee:**

It was confirmed that Ms. Kerby is one of the Co-Chairs, with the student Co-Chair yet to be appointed. The Committee has been unable to meet. Ms. Robinson is attempting to get student participation.

6. Student Life Issues:

Mr. Feldman tabled the student life issues and began with item #1:

**a) & b) Marriott Contract (Campus Centre); and Kosher Food (Loyola):** A food committee has been organized with Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Capano, Mr. MacIver, and Mr. Counihan. The committee will deal with these issues.

**c) Physically Disabled Access:** Ms. Kerby had nothing to report on this issue. Dr. Boisvert extended Dr. Barlow's regrets at not being able to attend, as a number of issues on the list, including this one, would have to be addressed to him. Dr. Barlow has extended the invitation though that any concerns can be addressed to him directly.

**d) Access to Services and Facilities by non-Concordia Students:** Mr. Feldman clarified that what the students wanted was restricted access to non-Concordia students for computer labs, libraries, shuttle buses, etc. Dr. Bonin and Dr. Barlow will address these issues at a future meeting.

**E) f) & g) Shuttle Bus Shelter; Escalators; Clocks:** Dr. Boisvert will convey these concerns to Dr. Barlow. A particular issue was the scheduling of maintenance during peak hours.

**2. Dean of Students:** It was moved and approved unanimously that CCSL introduce a formal motion of thanks to Dean Counihan into the minutes.

**"That CCSL extend heartfelt appreciation to Dean Brian T. Counihan for his work on behalf of students over the years, and wish him well in the future."**

**2a). Replacement:** Dr. Boisvert said that an Acting Dean of Students will be appointed for the period 1 January 1996 until 31 May. The long-term future of the Office is being considered as part of the Student Services review but it was felt that in the short-term it was essential to maintain continuity. The Acting Dean will be announced in early December.

**2b). Building Closings - P & T Annexes:** Mr. Feldman requested that any future closing of student space be reported to CSU prior to the event. He thanked Dean Counihan for his assistance in this matter. Dr. Barlow was made aware of the incident regarding P & T annexes.

**3. Air Quality in Music Booths:** Mr. Feldman said that a number of items, including this one, were placed on the list by Mr. Zacharias and that it would be more appropriate for these items to be put on hold until they can be addressed by Mr.



Zacharias.

4. **VA Building Reading:** To be addressed by Mr. Zacharias.
5. **Mite Avista Lab:** Mr. Feldman requested information on the alleged closing of the lab.
6. **Social Environments in the Face of Cutbacks:** To be addressed by Mr. Zacharias.
7. **Security and Equipment for Events:** Mr. Feldman indicated that he had discussed this issue with Dean Counihan. He outlined a recent event held by students which, it was felt, raised the University's exposure in the community, but resulted in internal costs. These costs included security and a significant amount of money for audio-visual equipment. It is felt that the University is not encouraging groups to hold events, and that some of the events held should possibly be absorbed by the University, as they can be seen as being for the benefit of the entire University community.

Dean Counihan said that many activities that are sponsored by students generate additional security. The costs for this is passed on to the student associations as it is not considered part of the regular service, but he argued that these activities stimulate and enhance the University's reputation and perhaps could be considered part of the operating budget. He also recommended a reduction in the tendency of security to "over-cover" student events. In regards to audio-visual equipment, Dean Counihan suggested that AV provide the students with a significant discounted rate, as much as can be afforded by the Department, and that they increase charges to external groups.

Ms. Kerby suggested that as a short-term management solution, students could team up with the academic sector and reduce their costs by presenting co-operative events.

Mr. Feldman agreed that as a short-term solution, Ms Kerby's suggestion had merit since some of the events do have significant academic benefits, but he stressed the need for a permanent solution.

Dr. Boisvert re-emphasized the state of the University's finances. Ms. LeCouvie suggested bringing in Security for at least one meeting prior to the event so that they are aware of all the aspects; this may reduce the problem of over-staffing, or even include them in the planning process.

Dean Counihan said that in his opinion, it was still preferable if these activities could be acknowledged by the University.

Mr. Bidoun stressed the need for co-operation between the different services involved and Mr. Côté suggested a meeting of Security, Audio-Visual and Public Relations personnel and student representatives to begin the process. Dean Counihan will arrange the meeting and the issue will be returned to at a future meeting.

**8. Shuttle Bus Stop (VA Building):** Dr. Barlow has been informed of the request and he will report at a future meeting.

**9. Washrooms:** Mr. Feldman said that he was aware that students are to some extent responsible for the general state of the washrooms, but he stressed that maintenance has deteriorated even further than last year. Dr. Barlow will be asked to report.

Mr. Feldman reported on the situation between CSU and CFLI, outlining the breakdown in communications which occurred resulting in a serious misunderstanding which led to CSU threatening to close LSBC. With Dean Counihan's help, the two groups met to discuss their differences and were able to reach an agreement. CSU has rescinded the resolution closing the LSBC, and Mr. Feldman has been appointed as liaison and will communicate directly with the President. Some issues still remain outstanding but he is confident that they will be worked out so that LSBC can make an application to the CRTC.

#### 7. Reports from Directors:

Dr. Boisvert explained the system used by the Directors in making their reports and asked if there were any questions resulting from the written reports. Since there were none Mr. Côté, Director, Financial Aid and Awards, gave his presentation.

Mr. Côté distributed a package containing information which he addressed on overheads (package available upon request). He said that the mandate of the Department was to assist students in finding money to pursue their education. In response to a question by Dean Counihan he said that one out of two students at Concordia depend on financial aid.

Mr. Côté discussed the office structure, the breakdown in aid (97% or \$ 35 million from the government, 3% from Concordia), emergency loans, government disbursements, undergraduate awards, debt load, debt counselling, government decentralization and the effect on the Department.

Mr. Bidoun expressed thanks on behalf of the students for Mr. Côté's informative presentation. He asked if there was any arrangement with the bookstore to deduct the cost of books from loans and bursaries. Ms. Lipscombe responded that it was a question of finalizing procedure. It wasn't sure if the system could be implemented



by January. Mr. Côté and Ms. Lipscombe will report on this issue at the next meeting.

Mr. Feldman asked the last question regarding emergency loans for books and was told by Mr. Côté that the Department doesn't provide loans for this purpose. It was a conscious decision on the part of Financial Aid & Awards to limit emergency loans to food and shelter.

Dr. Bonin will be asked to respond to Mr. Feldman's question regarding copies of class textbooks in the Library.

At the next meeting, both the Dean of Students and the Director of Counselling and Development will make a presentation.

#### 8. New Business:

**Announcements:** Dean Counihan announced that the Debating Society had won the Léger Cup for the second year in a row. An Invitation Tournament was being held over the weekend in the Concert Hall.

Ms. Kerby announced that Rev. Bob Nagy is retiring and all CCSL members are invited to the party being held.

Ms. Sbrocchi announced that the deadline for in-course bursary applications is 20 December. Applications can be found inside the handbook and at the Financial Aid & Awards office.

Dr. Boisvert announced that The Brian T. Counihan Scholarship for Outstanding Contribution to Student Life was introduced at the Undergraduate Awards Ceremony.

#### 9. Next Meeting: December 15th, AD-131, Loyola.

#### 10. Termination of Meeting:

On a motion by Mr. Bidoun, seconded by Mr. Feldman, the meeting terminated at 12:00.